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SUBJECT: DEMARCHE TO AUSTRIA: U.S./EU AIR TRANSPORT
AGREEMENT

REF: STATE 195012

¶1. Post conveyed reftel talking points on December 5 to
Alois Kraut, Head of the MFA's Transport and
Telecommunications Unit, and to Manfred Bialonczyk, Director
General of Civil Aviation in the Ministry of Transportation.
EconUnit Chief followed up with Kraut on December 14. Kraut
said that, although Austria is disappointed by DoT's decision
to withdraw the proposed rulemaking on "actual control" of
U.S. carriers, the GoA views U.S./EU discussion in January as
a sign that both sides want to move forward. Kraut
reiterated that the GoA and Austrian Airlines remain strong
advocates of concluding a U.S./EU Open Skies Agreement.
MCCAW